FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 NOVEMBER 1986

Israel

Statement on Iran Deal — Responding to U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's disclosures about Israeli involvement in the sale of U.S. weapons to Iran, an official statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio acknowledged that Israel "helped in transferring defensive weapons and spare parts from the United States to Iran at the request of the United States," but added that Iran's payment was made through a Swiss bank "without passing through Israel." The statement expressed surprise that money from the deal was diverted to the Nicaraguan "contra" movement, adding that Israel has nothing to do with this issue, knows nothing about it, and "would not agree to serve as a funnel of this sort." The Israeli statement was issued after a lengthy meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, the radio said, noting that Meese's disclosures apparently "caught Jerusalem by surprise." Shamir had earlier told Jerusalem television that "it is not our policy to export weapons to Iran in particular," but "sometimes there can be exceptions" to this rule. He stressed that there are "no secret ties" with Iran.

Relations With Egypt — During an official visit to Egypt, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal informed President Husni Mubarak that Israel's commitment to join an international peace conference is still valid, IDF radio reported. Shahal told reporters that he had been empowered by Foreign Minister Peres to transmit a message in this vein to Mubarak. A related *Hadashot* report stated that the message was not coordinated with Prime Minister Shamir, who may seek clarifications on its content.

East Jerusalem — A call by the mufti of Jerusalem for the posting of a UN force in East Jerusalem to protect Arab residents was dismissed by Shamir, who said that recent incidents in the city were perpetrated by fringe groups, Jerusalem radio reported. Arab residents have also demanded the removal of the Shuvu Banim Yeshiva from the Muslim quarter, the radio noted.

Attack on UAE Facility; Iran-Iraq War

A UAE offshore oil platform at Abu al-Bukhush suffered "extensive damage" in an air strike 25 November, according to a UAE statement read over Dubayy radio. The statement noted that 5 people were killed and 24 wounded in the "vicious aggression" by "foreign aircraft." An IRNA report blamed the strike on Iraq. At an emergency session the following day, the UAE Council of Ministers warned that the attack contributes to the "escalating dangers" against the region and endangers the interests and security of peace-loving states, Dubayy radio reported. The UAE will continue efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war, the cabinet said, but it reserves the right to take necessary measures to protect itself.

Meanwhile, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi warplanes hit Iranian oil facilities on Larak Island in the Strait of Hormuz 25 November. INA later noted a Lloyds report that three oil tankers were hit near the island. A military spokesman cited by the radio also announced an air strike on a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast, and Nicosia radio subsequently disclosed that a Cypriot tanker was hit in the central Gulf while sailing in Iranian waters. In a cable to President Saddam Husayn broadcast by Baghdad radio, the Iraqi Air Force commander declared that the Larak raid was part of a "new plan" to make "spectacular" air strikes on Iran's "military and economic mainstays." Another Iraqi communique carried on Voice of the Masses radio acknowledged the loss of a plane in attacks on military targets in Dezful and Andimeshk, while IRNA reported that 26 November was declared a day of mourning for 30 civilians killed in Iraq's raids on the two cities.

An Iraqi military statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio subsequently announced that 48 civilians were killed and 52 wounded when an Iranian missile hit a heavily populated area in Baghdad. Tehran radio announced that in further retaliation for Iraq's "criminal acts," a missile was fired on an "information and security center" in Baghdad. Military statements cited by IRNA said that Iranian warplanes bombarded the military airport at Irbil 26 November and that antiaircraft fire in Bakhtaran downed a second Iraqi jet the previous day.

Lebanon

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported fierce clashes between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the Maghdushah area 26 November, noting that fighting between the two sides also continued along combat lines in the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila areas of Beirut. The radio cited reports that 250 fighters from both sides were killed or wounded in the battle for Maghdushah the previous day. The radio said the Palestinians regained complete control of the town in the fighting 26 November, and Beirut radio broadcast an Amal Movement statement which acknowledged that the Palestinians had launched a major offensive in an attempt to take positions recaptured by Amal. Beirut radio claimed earlier that Amal completely recaptured the town 25 November and repulsed five Palestinian counterattacks. Hizballah gunmen participated alongside Amal in the recapture of Maghdushah, according to a Hizballah statement carried by the radio. In contrast, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the Palestinians remained in control of Maghdushah 25 November.

Meanwhile, Radio Monte Carlo disclosed that attempts to secure a Palestinian-Lebanese agreement in Damascus ended in failure, noting that a "stormy meeting" between Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) and Lebanese nationalist leaders concluded without results. A PFLP official cited by the radio accused Amal of obstructing a solution by insisting that it take immediate control of positions evacuated by the Palestinians, whereas the latter wanted such positions to be taken over by Mustafa Sa'd's Nasirite Popular Organization, a Sunni militia based in Sidon. Mustafa Sa'd criticized Amal in a statement

reported by the radio, asserting that Amal's refusal to allow his men to take control of these positions "does not help solve the problem." In remarks cited by Beirut radio, Amal leader Nabih Birri indicated that Amal will only be willing to lift the siege on Al-Rashidiyah camp after the Palestinians have withdrawn to their camps in the Sidon area, allowing Amal to reoccupy the positions it held before the attack on Maghdushah.

In other contacts in Damascus, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam discussed the Lebanon situation during talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', IRNA noted. Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with both PNSF and Lebanese leftist leaders in an attempt to stop the bloodshed in Lebanon, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio stated. In Libya, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a message from PFLP leader George Habash asking the Libyan leader to intervene immediately to stop the "unjust war" by the "Shi'ite despair gangs" against the Palestinian camps, according to the radio.

Egypt

A "high-ranking" Soviet economic delegation arrived in Cairo for a third round of talks on improving bilateral cooperation, MENA reported.

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Najibullah Press Conference on PDPA Plenum
LD252033 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1730 GMT 22 Nov 86

[Question and answer session with General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Najib at 22 November Kabul press conference — recorded]

[Text][Kawun]Sediq Kawun, chief editor of the daily *Haqiqat-e Enqelab-e Sawr*. Comrade Najib, please explain the main questions discussed in the 20th PDPA Central Committee Plenum.

[Najib]The main question discussed in this plenum was the state of implementation of the decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum based on the theses of the expansion of the social bases of the revolution. The Politburo believes it is necessary to bring under its control the performance of the decisions of that plenum, because the documents of the 16th plenum are of fundamental characteristics; in other words, I would like to emphasize that in our hands the documents of the 16th plenum are a reliable key to the solution of the Afghan questions.

[Kawian] Daud Kawian, chairman of the BIA. What has been achieved toward broadening the social bases of the people's sovereignty after the convocation of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum?

[Najib] It took me 1 hour to answer this question in the plenum. However, I would like to briefly state here that the party, the state, and the government, under the most difficult conditions of war, have performed specific constructive work. Elections to the local organs of state power and administration have been carried out. The first 5-year plan after the revolution has been approved and increases in the payment of teachers and other such things have been realized. Teachers are a reliable and honorable strata and are considered a credible bulwark in our society. When we say that the future belongs to the young, then it is the teacher who educates them.

However, as is usual in our party, we do not dwell on our achievements and gains although they are there; we concentrate on solving the unsolved questions. The unsolved questions are of more importance than those solved. We believe that in relying on the wisdom of the party and the support of the people's masses, we will be able to engage in the practical elimination of these problems.

[(Alayev)](Sergey Alayev), TASS correspondent in Kabul. Please explain your work concerning the attraction of national capitalists and the growth of the economy.

[Najib] Various tasks are being carried out. The administrative organs of private investment have been strengthened; by that I mean the economic council. A new bill will soon be brought out in this regard. Esteemed Amanuddin Amin, who has been concentrating solely on this work, was appointed vice chairman of the Council of Ministers. Regular meetings between responsible party officials and the government with private investors have been organized and have achieved results. Among these results are some 70 applications of such investors, which constitute more than 1 billion afghani. We express thanks for those investors who support the people's revolutionary sovereignty not only in words, but in deeds.

[Correspondent] [Name indistinct] *Novosti* correspondent in Kabul. A lot has been published about national reconciliation. What is the truth about this matter?

[Najib] The truth of the matter is that the people of Afghanistan are tired of war. They demand peace and their demand has been transformed into the policy of the PDPA, because as the party belongs to the people, it makes every effort in searching for a way to put an end to the bloodshed and fratricide. In this regard, the Afghan leadership, in its struggle toward peace, is considering the utilization of a national compromise. We believe in the fact that eventually brothers with brothers and Afghans with Afghans will reach an accord. Mountain does not go to mountain, but man goes to man. As to what the mechanism of the national reconciliation will be, we will consult with our people, including the Loya Jerga, and report to them frankly.

[Rogh] Hamid Rogh, chief editor of the daily *Heywad*. What was the 20th plenum's assessment of elections to the local organs of state administration and power?

[Najib] Our assessment was positive. The first free and democratic elections are indicative of the oustanding victory of our party, revolutionary state, and popular sovereignty. The people have not only elected their representatives, but if we look into the facts, they have appointed their guidelines [as heard] too. These historical elections have been carried out. Let us, comrades, in order to give all-round authority to the peoples' representatives, turn the party and state into the true organs of action.

[Jahesh] Esma'il Jahesh, chief editor of *Dehqan* journal. What can you tell us about land reform?

[Najib] At the instruction of the Politburo and the Council of Ministers, the ministries are putting forward new proposals. In the very near future we will give you further and more detailed information in this regard through the press, radio, and television. One thing I can say is that work with the peasants will be the major and decisive direction of our party.

[Mahshur] Esma'il Mahshur from the daily *Anis*. Reconstruction on the national level is an important matter. However, a lot of emphasis has been given to reconstruction in the social organizations. What is the reason?

[Najib] The reason is that a lot of red tape exists in their work. The link of their leading organs with the localities is weak. To cite an example: In the course of the last year, 32 officials of the National Council of Women, or the previous DWOA,spent 160 days on visits, that is 5 days for each of them in 1 year. Enrollment in the DWOA became very difficult, as in a party, and in this way the mass character of the DWOA was forgotten. Today the National Council of Women has been created. We hope, counting on the first steps taken, that we will be able to transform this organization into a truly mass social organization. The Central Committee has embarked upon measures toward the intensification of help by the party organizations with the DYOA and the trade unions. You are aware that we will soon convene

the second NFF [National Fatherland Front] congress. And serious changes will take place in their authorities, their aims and goals, and the method and form of their activity.

[Joya] Jawid Joya, chief editor of *Darafsh-e Jawanan* journal. In your speeches you speak more of the role of youths in the revolution. Why is that?

[Najib] I would like to expand upon your question a little more. In this regard it should be said how the role of the youth has been enhanced in the revolution. I believe this will be the best way to answer. You have realized correctly that after the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum our Politburo and the leadership, the party provincial committees, and the party organizations, pay more attention to the question of youth. I assess our youth in three categories. First, when observing live and searching youths, it reminds me of our struggling and courageous youth, including my own.Second, we are pleased with the way our youths are endeavoring for the success of the revolution and the defense of our homeland along its major front. And third, I see in the faces of today's youth a glittering and prosperous future of our beloved homeland, of our revolutionary, free, and proud Afghanistan. It is always the same; the first to join a revolutionary struggle and the ranks of revolution are the young. A social revolution has come about for the renewal and rejuvenation of the world.

The decision of the 20th plenum concerning the election of Comrade Mazdak as candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has been due to this fact. This fact indicates the great trust of the party in our youth. We clearly and openly say that we are pleased with our revolutionary youth.

[Fakhri] Jamal Fakhri, reporter of *Haqiqat-e Sarbaz* newspaper of the DRA Defense Ministry. What measures have been assessed by the plenum in connection with protection of the borders?

[Najib] A lot of work has been carried out in this regard, But it is not sufficient, and other serious measures will be taken. I assure you that the party, the Central Committee, and the DRA Council of Ministers are seriously engaged in handling these measures.

[Nasim] Nasim, from the [name indistinct] journal, publicity organ of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs. Please explain what the situation is regarding the tribes?

[Najib] Effective work in the tribes and the effect of Jergas with them have produced results. Also the situation prevailing in this regard has had a positive influence in improving work. However, I will frankly say that there are some tribal leaders who want to keep their feet in two boats. The tribal issue is one of our serious tasks.

[Majid] Homayun Majid, chief editor of the *Kar* journal. The Politburo is engaged in taking serious measures toward ending corruption. Does the party have sufficient power in order to be able to end corruption?

[Najib] I should say that it has sufficient power. What is this power? This power exists in the serious backing of the party, the party ranks, and our people. The power of the people is sufficient power.

[Wasiq] Sayd Yaqub Wasiq, chairman of broadcasting, radio Afghanistan. Please explain the situation concerning criticism and self-criticism in the social organizations?

[Najib] The Central Committee is not very happy with the level of criticism in the party and its ranks; and with self-criticism, the situation becomes even worse. The only pleasing thing is that some manifestations of criticism and self-criticism are becoming evident in the Politburo, the Secretariat of the Central Committee, and the Central Committee plenums. However, be sure that these manifestations and signs will eventually be transformed into a life-giving system of our party of the new era, the PDPA. Without criticism and self-criticism, a party dies. It should please us all that firstly, I am prepared to accept criticism. In this regard, comrades come with criticism which we consider in order to strive toward the elimination of shortcomings and defects.

[Correspondent] My name is [name indistinct] from the *Czechoslovak News Agency*, CTK. Comrade Najib, what was the reason for Comrade Babrak Karmal writing a letter asking to be released from party and government posts?

[Najib] I should tell you frankly that he himself wrote this request. The idea that Karmal was pressured into writing this request is simply stupid. No one put pressure on him, and no one could. When a person reaches a high rank, high courage is also needed. When a person leaves a high post, this too requires high courage. Comrade Karmal showed such character. He, of his own free will and from his heart, put forward his resignation. The heart of a true revolutionary remains always with his comrades and his party. We know the history of the east and the history of our society throughpast history.

Comrade Karmal was the 26th head of state since the time of Ahmad Shah, 1747. Remember how the predecessors of Comrade Karmal ended the term of their rule. Only five have resigned from power; the rest have either been assassinated or exiled. Comrade Karmal, as one of the esteemed and proud leaders of the DRA, in accordance with his own request, resigned and the party Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council have dealt with Comrade Karmal in a friendly, humanitarian, noble, and respected manner, indicative of the culture and advanced maturity of our party and people. This step taken by Comrade Babrak Karmal is considered by us as revolutionary richness and a great revolutionary gain. Comrade Babrak Karmal himself also attaches great value to the treatment the Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council gave him. What has happened in the DRA is a credit to us before humanity. Let other Islamic and similar countries accord the same sort of respectful approach to their leaders who finish their work. Such examples have not been seen so far in such countries.

[Qabul] Mohammad Qabul, chief editor of *Kabul New Times*. Please state what rights Comrade Karmal will receive for his retirement?

[Najib] This question has personal aspects. I can only say that we have reached an accord with the Politburo that Comrade Karmal

will receive a monthly pension of 30,000 afghani, as well as a house to live in free of charge. All comfortable living conditions have and are being created in the best manner. We could publish this in the press. This is also part of the reality of life. The truth should be complete and a part of it.

[Gordani] Enayat Gordani, chief editor of *Pamir* daily. I would like to ask two questions. One: How far has the work of the draft constitution been advanced? Second: Could you please speak further on the matter of criticism and self-criticism, which you mentioned previously?

[Najib] In connection with the Constitution, in essence, the preliminary work has been completed. A very important phase of the referendum among the people and the ratification of the Constitution in the Loya Jerga are before us. In reply to the second part of your question, we said [words indistinct] that criticism and self-criticism, provided they are constructive, will undoubtedly shorten the way toward implementing this task. [as heard] This path is very complicated; there are many problems and obstacles, [words indistinct]. However, your powerful hands should advance this with further firmness for the life and well-being of the party, your party, and the enhancement of its role. Those who came under criticism can be protected by individuals, but you who criticize are protected by the party and the people. I belive such protection is great and gigantic.

[Correspondent] The Western press is writing quite a lot about the withdrawal of the six USSR regiments to the effect that the Soviet regiments have not returned to their country but are being stationed on the borders with the DRA. What is the truth?

[Najib] Let us say that such a claim is meaningless and without value. Tens of people exist in the Central Committee and in the Ministry of Defense who were present at the ceremonies held on the occasion of the return of the Soviet regiments to the Soviet Union. In addition, official documents proving this fact also exist.

[Hamgar] Hamgar, chairman of the state committee of radio, television, and cinematography. Comrade Najib, can you please give your assessment of the 20th PDPA Central Committee Plenum?

[Najib] First, we can state clearly that this plenum was an example of collective leadership. The plenum provides the most important grounds for the solution of the most important questions of the life of the party and state. For the first time we collectively assessed the decisions and reports of the previous plenums, particularly the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. We will continue to carry out such a task. The plenum helped us [words indistinct] and helped us to strengthen the process of the reconstruction of the party and political work, which is needed immediately. This plenum was approved with complete unanimity of opinion and unity of action by the Politburo and all the Central Committee.

[Correspondent] Reporter of the [name indistinct] daily. After so many jergas, what practical and specific assistance by the Pashtuns, who have been (?given) your support, and what role did it have toward solving questions concerning Afghanistan, and what other expectations do you have from them in this regard? [sentence as heard]

[Najib] Firstly, you know that we are subject to aggression and interference from abroad, beyond our borders, at the instigation and support of imperialism — that is, the United States, its NATO partners, and reaction of the region. If the borders of our country are shielded in a reliable manner, undoubtedly we will bring about peace and tranquility, the serious and fundamental demands of our people. Our Pashtun tribes have prepared themselves to shield our country's borders. They have organized tribal and militia units and they continue their duties in this area. Our Pashtun tribal people, in pursuing the historical traditions of the country, are engaging in convening jergas. They even sit with those in the opposition, work without any bias, and ask them to return to their fatherland, the revolutionary Afghanistan, or come down from the mountains and take part in the construction of a new, progressive, and developed Afghanistan. We consider these tribes to be a serious defending power of people's rule and one of the most fundamental bases for the social broadening of the revolution. Thank you comrades.

Plenum Resolution, Najibullah Closing Remarks
LD222130 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 21 Nov 86

[Text] Resolution of the 20th PDPA Central Committee Plenum on the process of implementing the decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and the urgent tasks of party:

The period after the 16th plenum can be characterized as a period of activity by party and state bodies and social organizations to expand the social basis of the people's power, normalize the military and political situation, and encourage important economic transformation. The party's quantitative and qualitative growth has continued. The Armed Forces has increased in number. The political spirit and morale of soldiers and officers have been strengthened. The elections to the local organs of power have been successfully concluded. The DRA socioeconomic 5-year growth plan has been approved and is being implemented. The greatest event in the life of the party and country was the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum in which innovative decisions were made and a decisive policy was specified based on the enhancement of demands from cadres and innovation in all the spheres' social and political life. The 19th PDPA Central Committee Plenum endorsed the importance of the tasks discussed in the 16th and subsequent plenums of the PDPA Central Committee. It made a basic assessment of the accomplished tasks and showed the ways for fundamental improvement of the work of all the party and state bodies.

The withdrawal of the six regiments of the Soviet military contingents to their country was a historical step toward the normalization of the situation in the region. This is an obvious manifestation of the efforts of the Soviet Union and the DRA toward a peaceful and political solution to the situation around Afghanistan, the consolidation of people's power, and the strength of the DRA Armed Forces.

The 20th PDPA Central Committee Plenum approved:

1. The report of Comrade Najib on the implementation process of the 16th plenum's decisions and urgent party tasks, which were endorsed with complete unity of thoughts, should be put at the top of the list of practical party acvitity.

2. The Politburo, the Central Committee Secretariat, the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Council of Ministers should be commissioned to enhance the forms of the revolutionary requirements and principles in order to maintain the full implementation of the 16th plenum's decisions of the PDPA Central Committee, taking into account the creative character of the 16th plenum. The PDPA Central Committee Politburo must inform the members of the Central Committee on the implementation of other plenums' decisions.

3. The party provincial, city, and village committees; the political bodies of Armed Forces; and social and state nationwide organizations must continue specific work to unconditionally implement the decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and safeguard the further expansion of the social basis of the peoples' power in the country.

In his concluding speech, General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib at the 20th PDPA Central Committee Plenum said: The Politburo has every reason to express thanks for the warm support and unity of thought which full and candidate members of the Central Committee and members of the Central Committee Auditing Department have given to the proposals presented to the 20th plenum. We also express our thanks to those party members in the top ranks who added to the value of the [words indistinct] with their views. Today, our most important task is productive work. [passage indistinct]

We should mobilize people to solve the urgent tasks of the revolution. History has made its choice. There is a saying that optimists invent the aircraft; pessimists, the parachute. Let us come and think about those peaks that we want to capture. A great task for the homeland in the peoples' interest has been placed before us. Among the most important issues are the issues of protecting the borders, working among the peasants, and promoting national reconciliation. If we increase our energy tenfold and go to our people with pure hearts and warm and loyal words, there is no doubt that our people will support the decisions of the 20th plenum as they have been supported in this hall at present. The party is stronger today than at any other time. Only the PDPA will bring peace and security to the people.

Forward toward [word indistinct] of 20th Plenum [words indistinct].

Najibullah, Dost Receive UN's Cordovez

LD232120 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 23 Nov 86

[Text] This afternoon General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib met with UN Assistant Secretary General Diego Cordovez. Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost was present on the occasion.

Comrade Najib spoke in detail about the peaceful solution of the situations surrounding Afghanistan, the national gains of the April Revolution and their daily consolidation, the expansion of the social bases of the revolution, the process of national reconciliation, recent developments in the country and their logical link with matters relating to questions surrounding Afghanistan, and the DRA's stance in these respects.

Expressing support for the UN efforts toward reaching a peaceful solution of the situations surrounding Afghanistan and the role played by Diego Cordovez himself, Comrade Najib added that [words indistinct] has taken part with political will, truth, and necessary flexibility and will preserve this constructive participation in the future too.

Diego Cordovez then informed Comrade Najib about the process of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, particularly the results of his recent talks with the Pakistani authorities and the prospects for the Geneva talks. In the discussion he expressed gratitude for the cooperation of the Afghan side.

Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost held a meeting with the UN envoy, Diego Cordovez, yesterday and again this morning and talked about the process of talks in Geneva between Afghanistan and Pakistan in order to find a solution to the situations surrounding Afghanistan. Diego Cordovez informed him about the results of his talks with Pakistani Government authorities in Islamabad. In return Shah Mohammad Dost reported on the DRA Government's stance on these issues.

Talks Continue 24 Nov

LD241724 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] This morning Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost, in continuig his meetings with Diego Cordovez, assistant and envoy of the UN secretary general, met with him for the third time. During the meeting, the sides discussed the process of the continuation of the Geneva talks between the DRA and Pakistan toward achieving a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

UN Envoy Ends Talks; Departs

LD251759 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] This morning Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost met Diego Cordovez, assistant and representative of the UN secretary general, for the fourth time at the Foreign Ministry building. They discussed the continuation of talks between the DRA and Pakistan in order to achieve a political solution of the events around Afghanistan. They summed up the DRA's stand and once again specified the points incorporated in the stand. After the talks Diego Cordovez left for Islamabad.

At Kabul Airport, Diego Cordovez and the delegation accompanying him were seen off by Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Yuresh, a number of Foreign Ministry officials, and Samendu Banerjee, head of the UN development program in Kabul.

Prior to departure for Islamabad, Diego Cordovez gave an interview to the BIA correspondent and said: I hope this is my last visit to the DRA pertaining to my mission in continuation of talks. I hope to visit Kabul again as a tourist or as a friend of the Afghan people. Diego Cordovez added: During my stay in Kabul I held constructive talks with the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, the foreign minister, and other Afghan friends. I believe I have achieved fundamental progress concerning some relevant issues of this mission. I am now going to Pakistan for talks and on Saturday I will return to the DRA.

Diego Cordovez, assistant and representative of the UN secretary general said: In continuation of talks in Geneva there are difficult issues and many problems. I hope both sides, the DRA and Pakistan, follow their continuous endeavor in order to reach a solution. I believe in talks; it is possible to solve any problem by talks and by political goodwill. On the basis of this hope we are continuing the talks.

Karmal 'Departure' Said 'Instigated' by Moscow
BK251336 Hong Kong AFP in English 1221 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 25 (AFP) — Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government has put off the appointment of a new head of state amid tight security in Kabul and the arrest of 25 supporters of ex-president Babrak Karmal, Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

Mr Karmal, who was replaced as general-secretary of the Afghan People's Democratic Party by Mr Najibullah seven months ago, resigned last Thursday as the country's president "for health reasons". Diplomats here believe Moscow instigated the final departure of Mr Karmal, who was installed when Soviet forces entered Afghanistan in December 1979 to oust a previous Marxist regime. The diplomats said Mr Karmal's resignation had been accompanied by tight security in Kabul. There had been an "unusual number of searches and indiscriminate nighttime small arms firing", while on Friday jets overflew Qargah, Kabul, and Paghman throughout the day "presumably as a demonstration of force".

Though Mr Karmal's departure provoked no apparent public reaction, reports said a bomb exploding outside the Education Ministry killed one person. Timed to coincide with a press conference by Mr Najibullah, it caused considerable anxiety and a delay in the start of the briefing.

Security forces arrested some 25 supporters of the outgoing leader before and after the 20th plenum's decision to accept his resignation was made public, the reports said. Prime Minister Soltan Ali Keshtmand told neutral diplomats in Kabul that the plenum's decision Thursday was "a vivid example of collective leadership" in Afghanistan. He also said that the party's ten theses, which gave a blueprint of an idealistic [as received] society in Afghanistan, "were not Karmal's initiative".

Mr Keshtmand said Muhammad Chamkani, a non-party member, would act as head of the Revolutionary Council for protocol purposes in his capacity as senior vice president, and would strive for the general reconciliation initiated by Mr Najibullah to unite the country's different ethnic groups and warring factions. The new president would be elected after a Grand Assembly (Loya Jirgah) of tribesmen and ethnic groups, to meet some time next month, approved the country's Constitution, Mr Keshtmand added.

The diplomats believed that the Parcham faction of the ruling party was currently split into four factions with varying influence, led by Mr Karmal, Mr Najibullah, Nur Ahmad Nur, and Mr Keshtmand.

In his efforts to broaden his base Mr Najibullah has put Khalq faction leader Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy in charge of Kabul's security, the diplomats said. They also predicted cabinet changes, including the appointment of Muhammad Rafi as defence minister, "perhaps as a reward for abandoning Mr Karmal".

Mr Najibullah is also bringing in more Pashtuns into the 15-member party Politburo, bringing their numbers up from five last year to 11 now. Party slogans are now in Pushto rather than the Farsi used in the Karmal era, the diplomats said. The diplomats noted, however, that Moscow had apparently decided not to dump Mr Karmal completely. Mr Najibullah himself said in his press conference that the ex-president was the first of six previous Afghan leaders not to be killed or exiled.

Meanwhile, diplomats said, fighting was continuing in Qandahar between Afghan and Soviet forces on one side and mujahidin rebels on the other. Two planes reportedly arrived in Kabul recently with 40 dead from the fighting. A senior Afghan commander's body was also flown to Kabul and more troops have been sent to Afghanistan's second largest city, they said. The reports added that in the first two weeks of November the mujahidin had shot down 17 enemy aircraft throughout the country, but gave no details. The increase in the number of planes downed follows reports that the mujahidin have acquired U.S. Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

Karachi Reports Karmal Supporters Arrested
BK260823 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have destroyed several tanks and army vehicles of the soviet-Kabul troops at Nazian, Showlgar Kalay, and Darababa areas in the Nangarhar Province. They are reported to have hit a Soviet helicopter on the 19th of this month when it was landing at Miankhel Battalion headquarters killing a group of Soviet officers along with their commander.

Meanwhile, several supporters of the deposed leader of the Kabul regime, Mr Babrak Karmal, have been arrested following widespread house searches in several parts of Kabul.

Casualties Reported From Rebel Missiles

LD231524 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1430 GMT 23 Nov 86

[Text] On the eve of their complete defeat, the counterrevolutionaries once again engaged in bloody crimes against our innocent compatriots. By firing surface-to-surface missiles at residential areas in Arghandab District, Qandahar Province and Dam village, Asadabad City, Konar Province, these criminals brought mourning to a number of our compatriots.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Qandahar Province that as a result of a missile attack by the rebels at Arghandab District, three of our innocent compatriots including a child were martyred. Also the Baba Wali Saheb shrine has suffered damage due to a rocket hit. A house has also been burned.

According to the BAKHTAR report from the Konar Province as a result of the missile attack by the rebels at Dam an old woman was martyred and three others, including a child, were severly injured. Two of the injured have lost their legs. The report adds that as a result of this missile attack a number of residential houses were destroyed.

The people of Arghandab District and the citizens of Asadabad City have condemned the hostile and anti-Islamic actions of the rebels at gatherings and asked the security forces to bring before revolutionary courts the perpetrators of these incidents.

Further on Visit by Soviet Leader Gorbachev

'Marathon' Talks Held With Gandhi

BK251603 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had a marathon session of talks lasting 4 hours in New Delhi today. Most of their discussions were devoted to the international situation. They also covered a broad overview of bilateral matters. For about 3 and 1/2 hours the two leaders were all by themselves. They met for about 15 minutes in the prime minister's office at the South Block and later joined their aides in an adjacent room for about 1/2 hour. After that they went back to their private discussions.

An official spokesman told newsmen that at the end of their talks, the two leaders said they had a very useful and detailed discussion. Mr Gorbachev gave Mr Rajiv Gandhi a detailed assessment of the Reykjavik summit. The prime minister expressed India's regret that it has not succeeded but expressed the hope that since the proposals are still on the table, the two sides will persevere in their efforts to find a solution. The spokesman said that the situation in our region was also touched upon, but he declined to elaborate on this.

In their remarks opening the formal meeting of the delegations of the two countries, Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Gorbachev expressed their determination to further strengthen the constructive cooperation between their countries and make it more fruitful. Mr Rajiv Gandhi described the visit as of historic significance and said it will be a turning point in our bilateral relations and in the common cause for peace. He said the Indo-Soviet treaty has given our relations an enduring framework, and that enhances its relevance. He referred to the new thrust given by the Soviet Union to its economic policies and said we are following this with great interest. Our effort is to see how to improve productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness by exchanging experiences.

Mr Gorbachev in his remarks referred to the rousing welcome he was given this morning on his arrival in New Delhi and said this was a kind of reception that he had not had anywhere. He said relations between our two countries are marked by a high degree of good will. We should go forward from where the previous generation had left.

The ministerial-level delegation went through the draft of a joint statement and an agreement for economic and technical cooperation. They also went over the agreement relating to consular matters and the festival of India to be held in the Soviet Union next year. These documents are expected to be signed on Thursday.

The finance minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said new methods will have to be evolved to enlarge our volume of trade and bring greater dynamism into it. Mr K.C. Pant referred to the new technology evolved in the Soviet Union in steel production and said we can benefit from it. Others in the Indian delegation were the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, the human resources minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, the minister of state for defense, Mr Arun Singh, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, the Indian ambassador in Moscow, Mr T.N. Kaul, and a number of top officials.

The Soviet side comprises the foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mr Dobry-nin, the deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Mr V.M. Kamentsev, the chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, Marshal Akhromeyev, and others.

Gandhi Addresses Banquet 25 Nov

BK251659 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1431 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's address at the banquet held in honor of Mikhail Gorbachev in Delhi — live]

[Text] Esteemed General Secretary Gorbachev, Madame Gorbacheva, distinguished Soviet guests, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: When friends come calling, our hearts light up. The people of India are delighted to have you in their midst. On their behalf and on behalf of the Government of India, I welcome you on your first visit to this ancient, yet ever new city. We are glad India is the first Asian country you have chosen to visit. I look forward to resuming the dialogue which began in Moscow last year. It is a continuation of the dialogue which started with my grandfather over 3 decades ago.

You have just celebrated the 69th anniversary of the October Revolution led by the great Lenin. He had a clear vision of the Soviet Union's glorious future. He foresaw the inevitable triumph of the struggle over imperialism. It was about then that India's struggle against colonialism entered a new phase under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. We took the path of nonviolence. Nevertheless, the October Revolution had a profound impact on India's mind. Jawaharlal Nehru, whose birthday we have just celebrated, spoke eloquently of the historic significance of your revolution. He often reminded Indira Gandhi that she was born within a few days of that great event.

India-Soviet friendship owes much to Jawaharlal and Indira Gandhi. They understood the crucial role of the Soviet Union in the history of the world. Your leaders recognized India's key contribution to the making of an equitable world order. India-Soviet friendship is characterized by a deep appreciation of each other's aspirations, interests, and concerns. It has gained depth and maturity with the passage of time. It has remained firm and steady through the twists and turns of international politics.

There must be something deeper than mutual gains to explain the endurance and vitality of this friendship. Indeed, there is. It is our abhorence of imperialism, our struggle against colonialism and racism. It is our shared commitment to the principles of human equality and social justice. These principles transcend the differences in our historical background and in the political and social systems built by Lenin in your country and by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru in ours.

The October Revolution marked the beginning of the end of the old order in Europe. India's independence 30 years later tolled

the death nail [as heard] of classical colonialism all over the world. With the advent of nuclear weapons, peace became the foremost question before humankind. Peace was essential for the development of all newly independent countries. We have to fashion a strategy which would safeguard our freedom and enable us to progress in peace. From the very moment of independence, we took the position that military alliances and foreign bases would compromise our new, hard-won freedom. Nonalignment has grown out of our historical experience and necessities. We have nurtured an alternative vision of world stability and security based on cooperation amongst all nations and the renunciation of force.

The circumstances and challenges faced by the Soviet Union have been different from ours. Your historical experience since the revolution has led you steadfastly to pursue the goal of peace. Your strong commitment to peace and disarmament has found concrete expression in various proposals. Under your leadership, the last 20 months have witnessed a most impressive contribution to the peace process. You have identified yourself with the noble vision of a world without weapons, of the human families working and flourishing in peace. I recall your moving reference to the folly of burning more resources in the furnace of the arms race. We welcome your energetic and earnest efforts to break the deadlock on nuclear disarmament.

At the recent summit in Reykjavik, you made constructive and bold proposals in the spirit of the celebrated affirmation in Geneva that a nuclear war cannot be won and should not, therefore, be fought. It was unfortunate that the strategic defense initiative blocked agreement. Never before had the prospect of peace looked so bright. A new beginning was so near and yet so far. The divergent perceptions at Reykjavik must not deflect the world from pursuing the proposal that was put forward at the summit. We must persevere.

We resolutely oppose the militarization of outer space. It does not matter that the SDI is described as defensive. Security is not enhanced but dangerously jeopardized by creating yet another deadly and extremely sophisticated weapon system. The logic of a shield in outer space is deeply flawed. The speed and complexity of systems of nuclear warfare eliminate human intervention. Disaster may never be willed. It might just happen one lazy afternoon.

When the first atom bomb wiped out Hiroshima, Mahatma Gandhi observed with a prophet's passion: Unless now the world adopts nonviolence, it will spell certain suicide for mankind. At the dawn of the nuclear age Jawaharlal Nehru pointed out that the way of the atom bomb is not the way of peace or freedom. India has been true to their teachings. All these years we have labored to make the world safe from nuclear disaster. India, with the nonaligned countries, has been at the forefront of the movement for abolition of nuclear arsenals.

In January 1985, six nations from five continents met for the first time in Delhi to propose a series of concrete and realistic measures to halt the destructive arms race and to eventually banish the spector of nuclear death. The Soviet Union responded promptly and positively by declaring a unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. At Ixtapa, the six nation initiative carried forward the argument for sanity. You have listened to the anguished cry of humanity. We hope others will too, sooner rather than later.

At the recent summit of the Nonaligned Movement at Harare a notable achievement was to focus world attention on the continuing outrages of the Pretoria regime in southern Africa. The summit extended full support to the valiant freedom fighters of southern Africa. It established the Africa Fund to support the Frontline States in their determined struggle. One way of limiting future bloodshed and dismantling apartheid is through comprehensive mandatory sanctions. There is worldwide popular support for sanctions. But action is slow and halting on the part of those governments who are in a position to make sanctions effective. The march of history cannot be halted. Apartheid will crumble, freedom and racial equality will triumph.

There are threats to peace, stability, and security in several parts of the world. Some stem from old national rivalries. Many are the result of the relentless thrust of those who seek to extend their presence through alliances, bases, arms supply, and other arrangements. Yet others arise from some countries exploiting the politics of global confrontations to acquire weapons beyond their legitimate need.

The aggravation of the threat in our security [as heard] is compelling us to divert scarce resources from development to defense. We should endeavor to remove or lesson such tensions.

Bilateral mechanism must be given a chance to work without outside interference. Regional arrangements should be encouraged to enhance trust, stability, and cooperation. The UN system should be strengthened for global peace. The Pacific Ocean has traditionally been an area of rivalry. The Indian Ocean is now being rapidly turned into a theater of conflict. Efforts to demilitarize the Indian Ocean under the UN auspices and to ensure its status as a zone of peace has been frustrated by vested interests. The threat to the independence and integrity of the littoral and hinterland states is real and increasing. For decades, the people of India cherished the vision of a resurgent, prosperous Asia, no longer the plaything of others but active and equal partner in the shaping of history. This vision began to acquire reality with the countries of Asia achieving independence. National independence brought new responsiblities, especially the task of rebuilding economies shattered by exploitations. Our leaders stress the need of peace for development — peace in the entire world, peace in our region, and peace with our neighbors. Jawaharlal Nehru convened an Asian relations conference here in New Delhi in March 1947 in which the Asian republic of the Soviet Union also participated. He declared: In this atomic age, Asia will have to function effectively in the maintenance of peace. Indeed, there can be no peace unless Asia plays her part.

There is today conflict in many countries and all of us in Asia are full of our own troubles. Nevertheless, the whole spirit and outlook of Asia are peaceful and the emergence of Asia in world affairs will be a powerful influence for world peace. Since that time, we in India have endeavored to fashion concepts which would regulate relations between nation states in a peaceful, friendly, and cooperative manner. Pancasila [five principles of peaceful coexistence], the Bandung [the first nonaligned summit]

principle, and the vitality of the nonalignment provide the intellectual and political frameword for a new pattern of international relations both in Asia and in the world.

Nationalism is a tremendous force in the countries of Asia today. It fills them with a new energy to realize their aspirations for a better life. But we know from history that excesses of nationalism produce tension and conflict. To build a cooperative and peaceful world order we have to progress beyond narrow local loyalties and learn to regard the world as one family. This is the great political concept that has shaped the Indian outlook through the ages. This century has seen Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Indira Gandhi repudiate narrow nationalism. The profound richness and diversity of the Asian tradition, the ancient wisdom ouf our societies, and our vital urge to transform our social and economic conditions for the welfare of our people give us the promising starting point for a new pattern of peace and stability, development, and cooperation of our continent. The Soviet Union, which stretches ascross Asia, has naturally to be a part of this endeavor.

In this contest, it is fitting to recall your thought-provoking reflections on this theme at Vladivostok. The fundamental postulates of Pancasila, Bandung, and nonalignment to which you referred provide a framework for thinking through the complex and historically specific problems of peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific regions. What is important is a process of breaking through the fears, the inhibitions and the anhappy experiences of the past. Greater exchange of ideas at all levels is needed to work out a basis for cooperation in diverse fields. Step by step we may move toward our objectives of harmonious relations based on freedom, equality, and justice. Toward this end, you have made a major contribution.

India-Soviet friendship has become a factor for global peace and stability. The Soviet Union has consistantly supported India's efforts to consolidate its independence and safeguard its national interests. Our friendship is not directed against anyone. True friendships never are. A major landmark in the evolution of our friendly relations was the signing of of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace and Friendship and Cooperation in 1971. It remains a source of strength for our respective countries. Its importance has increased in the context of the current world situation and recent events in our part of the world. India sees in the Soviet Union a trusted friend who has stood by us in moments of trial and anxiety.

We value the help we have received from the Soviet Union in completing the first phase of our industrialization. We are now poised for the next phase of technological modernization. We seek higher productivity, greater efficiency, and speedier eradication of poverty. We have always envisaged increased economic cooperation with other countries while pursuing self-reliance. Cooperation with the Soviet Union in the current phase of our development could be even more significant for both countries than in the previous phase. New vistas beckon, especially in the exciting field of frontier technology. We should not remain satisfied with the established patterns of cooperation, valuable as they are. We must reach out to new horizons. Imagination and innovation are required. While the agreements we have reached are good and useful, we should rise to still higher levels of cooperation.

General Secretary Gorbachev, we have watched with admiration your efforts to bring about deep and revolutionary changes in Soviet society. Your tireless energy and your bold approach to the accumulated problems have released new forces of change and creative endeavor. You are building on the successes of the past and giving a new orientation to the entire process of development in keeping with the rising aspirations of your people. We are confident that the qualitative changes taking place now in the Soviet Union will bring our two peoples still closer. May I say how enthused we are by your emphasis on new political thinking to cope with the problems that beset humanity in the closing years of the 20th century. Nations, firm in their own political beliefs, must reach out to one another in good faith. We must break out of stereotyped response. We must recognize that the future cannot be hostage to the past. Confrontation must yield to peaceful coexistence. Coexistence itself must lead on to cooperation. Let us strengthen existing international institutions. Let us be innovative in building durable structures of peace, stability, and progress.

Ours has been a friendship of two warm-hearted peoples. The kinship between the people of Soviet Central Asia and India goes back many centuries. The great masters of Russian literature have made a profound mark on our own literary renaissance. Our languages have been studied by Soviet scholars. We respond enthusiastically to each other's music and dance. This cultural interaction will be taken to new heights through the cultural festivals we have planned. These celebrations will open new doors in the hearts of our peoples.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen. May I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of His Excellency, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; to the health of Madame Raisa Gorbacheva; to the future prosperity and progress of the great Soviet people; to evergrowing friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India; to friendship, to freedom, to peace. [applause]

Gorbachev Speaks at Banquet

BK251545 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1450 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Speech by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev Delhi banquet hosted by Rajiv Gandhi in his honor; Gorbachev speaking in Russian with simultaneous translation in English — live]

[Text] Respected Mr Prime Minister, respected Mrs Sonia Gandhi, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends, comrades! I have already had an opportunity to express the heartfelt gratitude to the Government of India and to the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, for the invitation to visit your country. I also thank you, Mr Prime Minister, for the kind words you have just said addressed to our people and our country. We are grateful to India's leaders and its officials and public figures for the high assessment of

Soviet efforts and initiatives in the cause of peace. We hope that this is more than just an expression of courtesy.

Efforts to ensure a steady development of friendly relations with India have been and will remain a priority area in our foreign policy. Regular Soviet-Indian summit meetings are a major factor in our relations. Such meetings are invariably marked by an atmosphere of genuine trust, of understanding each other's concerns and intentions — both domestic and international. My meeting today with the prime minister confirmed this assessment. I hope that we are being equal to the task of continuing the good tradition started by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, imparting to it new contents prompted by the imperatives of our time. And the time we are living is difficult, and I would even say critical. Will mankind continue along the road of power confrontation as regrettably it has been doing — a road that could eventually lead to a catastrophe, or will it have enough wisdom, courage, and strength to break such inertia and steer the world to a road of continued survival, of progress, and elimination of social evils and maladies?

My recent meeting with President Reagan in Reykjavik has brought into sharp focus both the potential for progress toward a nuclear-free world and the obstacles and forces that block that progress. Indeed, we are witnessing an exponential growth of scientific and technological discoveries and innovations. The potential for peace and social progress is in objective terms also growing and gaining momentum. At the same time, the nuclear threat continues to hang over mankind. Peaceful coexistence is being subjected to harsh tests. Every day armed conflicts and acts of terrorism take a toll of human lives. Sufiering and devastation have become an every day reality for many people. The [word indistinct] of militarism hold up progress. The arms race devour the resources that are so badly needed to solve the burning problem affecting the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The situation urgently calls for a new approach to security issues, a new thinking in politics, and a new philosophy in international relations. Survival of mankind must be placed above all other interests and the security of any one state is inconceivable without security for all.

A few words about Soviet-Indian cooperation: Last year in Moscow, Mr prime minister and I laid the groundwork for its further development in all areas. Today we have continued this work and agreed on important things. There is every reason for Soviet-Indian relations not only to remain good but to make constant headway on the solid foundation of mutual respect, mutual benefit, and common aspirations for people. There is every possibility to make our mutual trust and friendship a still more influential factor in international life for the benefit of peace, disarmament, and development.

Ladies and gentlemen, friends, we are following with great interest current developments in the life of new India. We are gratified to see your accomplishments, but we also see your difficulties and problems. The Government of India has put before its people a momentous task to assure that the country enters the 21st century as a highly developed nation with a powerful economic, scientific, and technological potential. The Soviet people sincerely wish it a success. They wholeheartedly welcome the fact that the role of peace-loving India in the world affairs is steadily growing. May I express the confidence that this Soviet-India meeting will produce many positive results for the people of our two countries and for the strengthening of international security in Asia and in the world.

In conclusion, I would like to wish good health and success to the prime minister of the Republic of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; Mrs Gandhi, and the well-being and prosperity to the great people of India. May the friendly Soviet-Indian relations strengthen and develop for the benefit of our people and the peace in the whole world.

Velayati Rejects 'Close Ties With Nations'

LD251910 Tehran IRNA in English 1856 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 25, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati rejected the notion that the Islamic Republic should seek close ties with nations rather than foreign governments, here Tuesday.

Velayati made the remark in a lecture to students of the science and technology university here where he added that for the Islamic Republic to have diplomatic relations with a foreign country is one thing, and to become subordinate to the policies of that country is another thing.

Underlining the need for Iran to have relations with all countries excluding its enemies, the foreign minister said that Iran and the Soviet Union exchange political delegations all the time. "But", he said, "it does not mean that Iran agrees to be on the side of the Soviet bloc."

On Iran's neither-East-nor-West policy, Velayati described the Islamic Republic's foreign policy as a "straight but arduous" course and said "ideals of the Islamic Republic of Iran are quite different from those of both Eastern and Western blocs."

If Iran should shift either to the Soviets or to the West it would be a backing down on its own part from the avowed principles of the Islamic Revolution, Velayati said.

Foreign Minister Velayati also rejected recommendations by unidentified "friends" that the Islamic Republic ignore the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and come closer to Moscow as a circumstantial move in light of the Iraqi-imposed war and said any such move would seal the doom of Iran's foreign policy dictum.

Clandestine Radio on Khomeyni's 'Collusion'

LD252241 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iran Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Dear listeners, we invite you to listen to the text of the statement of the Central Committee of Feda'iyan-e Khalq-e Iran, majority, about the disgraced collusion between Khomeyni and Reagan:

Struggling compatriots, revolutionary and patriotic Iranian people! Once again the Khomeyni regime has made you a target of its malice. A new treason by the regime against our people and our country is in progress. This time the Satan of Jamaran [village where Khomeyni lives] has put his hand in the hands of the Great Satan, U.S. imperialism. The reactionary mullahs, who with slogans of Death to America, tried to portray themselves as revolutionaries, are now disgraced in the four corners of the world. The entire world has realized that from a long time ago Khomeyni's regime has been busy having secret and covert discussions and dealings with the United States. Both Reagan's government as well as Khomeyni's regime have revealed that from a year and a half ago, America's plan to get closer to Khomeyni's regime and to collaborate with it has been put into operation, and that both sides have had numerous direct and indirect discussions in this connection.

In an official speech, Reagan said that the covert contacts between the U.S. and Iranian Governments have been going on regularly and that the visit of the U.S. Government delegation, led by McFarlane, the former security adviser of the U.S. President, is the latest of such contacts. He emphasized that McFarlane had been given full powers to reach agreements with Khomeyni's regime. Reagan emphasized that the United States has been officially placing weapons at the disposal of Khomeyni's regime.

The U.S. delegation led by McFarlane, during its 5-day stay in Tehran, had discussions with the officials of the Government of the Islamic Republic about U.S. aid to Khomeyni's regime in its war against Iraq through the export of U.S. weapons to Iran. They also discussed the implementation of $20 billion arms agreements between the shah's regime and the U.S. Government, the collaboration of the Iranian regime with the United States for the release of American hostages, as well as the expansion of economic and political relations between the two sides. Both sides reached a large number of agreements.

Compatriots, the evil regime of the Islamic Republic has engaged in the most dangerous dealings with U.S. imperialism in order to continue this destructive war, to continue the slaughter and destruction, and to continue its shameful existence which is drenched in the blood of the noblest children of this land. Khomeyni's regime sees the continuation of the war and so-called victory in the war as inseparable from its own fate, and toward this end it is prepared to engage in any collusion. As a result, the regime is using the last important gain of the Bahman [February] revolution, namely the ending of the political and military influence of the world-devoring U.S. imperialism, as a bargaining point for its dealings with the greatest enemy of the people of Iran and of the world.

Reagan and Khomeyni are both in favor of the continuation and expansion of the war at the cost of the destruction of Iran and Iraq. U.S. imperialism and Khomeyni's regime jointly regard this destructive war as the greatest blessing. Both America and Khomeyni's regime favor the suppression and massacre of Iranian revolutionaries and patriots, epecially the massacre and suppression of communists. Both the United States and Khomeyni's regime wish the struggles of the Iranian people to be suppressed and your just call to be silenced. Reagan and Khomeyni are unanimous in their views and have many common goals in conspiracy against the revolution of Afghanistan, the revolutionary and progressive movement in Iraq, the revolutionary movements in the region, and with hostility toward our neighboring country, the Soviet Union. For these reasons, this regime has engaged in treacherous and covert collusion with the Great Satan.

Struggling compatriots, workers and intellectuals! The reactionary mullahs have dressed Iran in black and have placed it in a state of mourning. They have dragged the spring of freedom through blood. They have emptied your tables. They have closed factories and have destroyed villages. These executioners kill our young and imprison and butcher our revolutionary children.

They suppress the rights and dignity of women and they insult the dignity and honor of all people. At the moment, in order to continue this bloodshed and these evil deeds, they have started dealing with U.S. imperialism.

You should engage in a most decisive battle to put an end to these crimes. Everything depends upon our determination, our willpower, and our unity and struggle. The tyrannical regime of the mullahs is faced with a deep crisis. Each day the foundations of this regime grow weaker and weaker. Each day there is a more intense controversy and disunity in the ruling clique. You should arise decisively in battle. All forms of struggle against the regime should be expanded. We should raise the call of long live peace, long live freedom, death to Khomeyni, and death to U.S. imperialism throughout the country. We should arise in order to topple this blood-thirsty regime. Long live peace. Long live freedom. Death to the regime of the Islamic Republic. Death to world imperialism led by U.S. imperialism.

[Signed] The Central Committee of the Organization of Feda'iyan-e Khalq-e Iran, Majority.

Deputy in Libya, Syria To Explain 'Covert' Acts

TA251913 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The Islamic Republic regime, in order to coordinate its positions with the regimes ruling in Syria and Libya, has dispatched one of its high-ranking officials to Tripoli and Damascus. According to news agencies, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eeslam, the Khomeyni regime's deputy foreign minister, after visiting Libya and conferring with 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, the Al-Qadhdhafi regime's number two man, arrived today in Damascus in order to hold talks with leaders of the Syrian regime as well.

Political observers believe that Sheykh ol-Eslam's mission is totally related to the current issue, namely the Islamic Republic's secret relationship with America. According to these same observers the disclosure of covert relations between Tehran's mullahs and the U.S. Government has aroused the anger of Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, and the Islamic Republic dispatched Sheykh ol-Eslam to Tripoli, and now to Damascus, to provide certain explanations in this regard.

Arms Shipment in FRG Airport Termed 'Rumor'

LD252132 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Bonn, Nov 25, IRNA — Head of the Islamic Republic Airlines office in Frankfurt categorically refuted Tuesday claims that German customs officials had seized an Iran-destined arms shipment at Frankfurt Airport. A radio report from Hessen Province of West Germany claimed Friday that the customs officials had seized some weaponry which was to be flown to Iran.

The airlines official said that the report was 'sheer invention' and added that no Iranian cargo plane was in Frankfurt airport Friday and that airport officials knew nothing about the issue. Meanwhile, Iranian diplomats here termed the report a 'rumour' spread by the enemies of the Islamic Republic.

Protests Lodged With UN on Iraqi Violations

LD251720 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 25, IRNA — In letters to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Saturday and Sunday, Iran's Foreign Ministry strongly protested Iraq's violation of international conventions including the UN-sponsored June 12, 1984 agreement on banning attacks on residential areas.

Meanwhile, Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Seyyed Rajai'e-Khorassani submitted a letter to De Cuellar Monday requesting that the UN send a fact-finding delegation to Iran to investigate Iraqi war crimes against the Islamic Republic.

Journalists Visit Bombed Residential Areas

LD252034 Tehran IRNA in English 1225 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Nov 25, IRNA — A group of foreign photographers, reporters, and film makers Tuesday visited residential areas here bombed by Iraqi warplanes on Sunday and Monday.

An informed official told the visiting reporters that the province has been bombed and missiled by the Baghdad government 70 to 80 times since the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war on September 22, 1980. Some 17 Iraqi ground-to-ground missiles have been fired at the city of Bakhtaran since 1980 inflicting high casualties and destroying many residential areas, the official said. He also told the reporters that 37 Iraqi jet fighters attacked the city with rockets and cluster bombs at 07:59 and 08:13 hours GMT Sunday. Some 125 civilians including 30 women and 59 children were martyred in the Sunday Iraqi air raid on the city, the official said.

Interviewed by the reporters, the people wounded in the Iraqi air attacks stressed that the Iranian forces by continuing their resistance and massive presence at the war fronts will give a decisive response to these Iraqi atrocities.

Bakhtaran Province with an area of 25,000 square kms lies in western Iran, 300 kms east of the Iraqi border.

Further on Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Information Center Hit

NC260544 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] In retaliation for the dastardly attacks perpetrated by the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime on the residential, industrial, and labor centers of our country, the Islamic forces hit an office belonging to the Baghdad Information and Security Organization with a ground-to-ground missile this morning. The Islamic Revolution Guards Central Headquarters has issued the following statement on this matter:

In the name of God, the Almighty. And fight them until there is no more tumult or oppression. [Koranic verse]

O combatant Islamic nation; O God-seeking and heroic Iranian nation: Your brave children within the ranks of the great Army of Mohammad, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, are in the process of carrying out their holy jihad with an extensive presence on the warfronts against the minions of world arrogance and Saddam's Ba'thist-'Aflaqite regime. For this reason, the terrified [word indistinct] Zionists in Baghdad have escalated their dastardly attacks on our residential, industrial, and labor centers. In view of the escalation of criminal acts by the inhuman Zionist regime of Saddam against residential areas in Ahvaz, Bakhtaran, Dezful, and a number of other places in our Islamic homeland, and following the Islamic Republic's repeated warning that it would escalate its deterring retaliatory operations, one of Baghdad's Information and Security Organization's centers was hit by a ground-to-ground missile from the Islamic Revolution Guards' Air Force Missile Contingent at 0345 [0015 GMT] this morning. The missile contingent, together with the otHer soldiers of Islam, announces that it will continue its deterrent activities until Saddam's Ba'thist-Zionist regime has fallen and Karbala has been liberated. Help from God and a speedy victory. So give the glad tidings to the believers.

Attack Termed 'Deterrent Measure'

LD261108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Following the surface-to-surface missile attack of the combatants of Islam, fired on an intelligence center of the Iraqi regime in Baghdad at 0345 this morning in retaliation for attacks of the Zionist enemy on residential areas of the cities of Bakhtaran, Dezful, Andimeshk, Sar Bandar, and Bandar-e Khomeyni, the War Information Headquarters [WIH], issued a statement.

The statement said: This morning's missile attack of the combatants of Islam, in response to repeated crimes of the Iraqi regime, was only a deterrent measure. The Islamic Republic of Iran once again warns international forums to try and prevent the Iraqi regime from attacking residential areas and asks them not to encourage the Iraqi regime to continue its crimes through their indifference. However, the warriors of Islam, by relying on undiminishing divine power, shall stand against all barbarism and attacks of the Zionist enemy with all their might. The Iraqi regime should realize that should it continue with its crimes, the Iranian missiles would be capable of hitting any industrial, military, or security centers in all Iraqi cities.

Day of Mourning Held in Khuzestan

LD260917 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Nov 26, IRNA — One day of public mourning was announced in Khuzestan Province Wednesday in commemoration of the martyrs of the recent inhuman bombardments of a number of cities by Iraqi aircraft.

A joint statement published by the Ahvaz Friday prayers leader and Khuzestan governor general, assured the people in the region that the Muslim forces of Iran will take revenge of the Baghdad criminals.

Thirty civilians were martyred and a group of others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in Dezful and Andimeshk Tuesday afternoon. A number of houses and shops were also destroyed in the raid.

Intruding Iraqi jet fighters also bombed civilian areas in Bandar-e Khomeyni port, Sar Bandar, and Mahshahr Monday inflicting 159 civilian casualties including many children.

Iraqi Airport in Irbil Bombed

LD260623 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 26, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed airport of Irbil base in northern Iraq at 07:35 hours local time (04:05 hours GMT) Wednesday.

A statement issued by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces further said that all the aircraft returned to their bases safely.